

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A flat sheet of material for forming a structure having a three dimensional shape, said sheet comprising:

material forming the sheet in a first portion of the sheet;

a second portion of the sheet where material comprising the sheet is removed, said second portion having a first edge side and a second edge side which are ~~parallel~~ perpendicular to each other; and

~~whereas a folding of the sheet wherein the sheet is capable of being folded~~ to create a first fold line in a first direction ~~along parallel to said first edge side and second side~~, then being folded ~~folding the sheet~~ in a second direction parallel to said second edge to create a second fold line so as to cause said first edge and said second edge to come into alignment with each other so as to be parallel with each other ~~causes the first portion to come into an abutting relationship with itself along the first and second fold lines.~~

2. (Original) The sheet according to claim 1 wherein the second portion is surrounded by the first portion.

3. (Original) The sheet according to claim 1, which includes a plurality of first portions and second portions.

4. (Original) The sheet according to claim 3, wherein the second portions are surrounded by first portions.

5. (Currently amended) The sheet according to claim 1, wherein after folding ~~the~~ the first portion which comes into an abutting relationship is seamed.

6. (Previously Presented) The sheet according to claim 5, wherein said seam is by welding, thermal bonding or adhesive bonding.

7. (Original) The sheet according to claim 1, wherein the sheet is capable of being folded ~~the folding takes place~~ at a junction formed between the first portion and the second portion.

8. (Currently amended) A method of ~~making a sheet for~~ forming a structure having a three dimensional shape using a sheet, said method comprising the steps of:

forming the sheet to create a first portion of the sheet with sheet material;

removing a portion of the sheet to create a second portion of the sheet without sheet material which has a first edge side and a second edge side which are perpendicular ~~parallel~~ to each other; and

folding said sheet along a first fold line parallel to ~~along~~ said first edge side ~~and second side~~ and then folding the sheet in a second direction parallel ~~perpendicular~~ to said second edge ~~the first direction~~ to create a second fold line so as to cause said first edge and said second edge to come into alignment with each other so as to be parallel with each other ~~causing the first portion to come into an abutting relationship with itself along the first and second fold lines.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8 which includes the step of forming the sheet with the second portion surrounded by the first portion.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 8, which includes the step of forming the sheet with a plurality of first portions and second portions.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The method in accordance with claim 8, wherein the folding takes place at a junction formed between the first portion and the second portion.

14. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 8, which includes the step of seaming ~~the~~ an abutment formed by the folding.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein seaming is done by welding, thermal bonding or adhesive bonding.

REMARKS

An interview was held on June 11, 2003 between Examiner Cole and Dennis Smid and Samuel Megerditchian (two of the applicants' undersigned attorneys). The applicants and Messrs. Smid and Megerditchian wish to thank the Examiner for her time and consideration for such interview.

Claims 11 and 12 have been canceled. Claims 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 13, and 15, and amended claims 1, 5, 8, 9, and 14 are in this application.

Claims 1-15 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-23 of copending application No. 09/749,318 and claims 1-26 of copending application 09/796,942. Independent claims 1 and 8 (from which the remaining claims depend) have been amended herein. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the obviousness-type double patenting rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. The claims as presented herein are believed not to be indefinite. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the 112 rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-4 and 8-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by De Winter et al. U.S. Patent No. 3,623,924.

Claim 1 has been amended herein in a manner along the lines of that discussed during the June 11th interview. For example, claim 1 as amended herein recites in part the following:

“wherein the sheet is capable of being folded to create a first fold line in a first direction ~~along~~ parallel to said first edge, then being folded in a second direction parallel to said second edge to create a second fold line so as to cause said first edge

and said second edge to come into alignment with each other so as to be parallel with each other." (Underlining and bold added for emphasis.)

It is believed that claim 1 as presented herein is patentably distinguished from De Winter as applied by the Examiner. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the 102 rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.


For similar reasons, it is also respectfully requested that the 102 rejection of amended independent claim 8 be withdrawn. Claims 2-4 and 9-11 are respectively dependent from one of the amended independent claims. Accordingly, it is also respectfully requested that the 102 rejection of these dependent claims be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-10 and 13-15 and the allowance of this application with claims 1-10 and 13-15 are respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response and not paid herewith to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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